6.1. General:

The morphological system of Gondi is more similar to that of Telugu than other Dravidian languages. Gondi language spoken in M.P. has been considerably influenced by the administrative and prestige language i.e. Hindi and its surrounding dialects. Gondi dialect of Betul is more influenced by Marathi as compared to the Gondi dialects of Balaghat and Mandla. For this reason, the present day Gondi of Betul, Balaghat and Mandla is an admixture of Hindi and Marathi. The percentage of basic vocabulary of Gondi is decreasing fast. The result is, whenever a Gond does not find a word in Gondi, he immediately borrows a Hindi or Marathi word and adds Gondi elements making it a Gondi word. The following examples show this trend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Hindi</th>
<th>Gondi</th>
<th>Gondi suffix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crocodile</td>
<td>मागर</td>
<td>मागराल</td>
<td>- al</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>True</td>
<td>साचा</td>
<td>साचो</td>
<td>- o</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Words borrowed from Hindi are given in the comparative word list of the three dialects in the end.
6.2. 

**Derivation of Nouns**:

A noun in Gondi is that which is capable of taking case suffixes. They are classified into the following types:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chart 15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verb Base</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above chart shows that there are two types of noun (1) Derived, which has taken at least one derivational affix (2) Basic, which is without any derivational affix. Nouns can be derived from verb bases, adjective bases, adverb bases and noun bases by adding their respective noun forming suffixes.

6.2.1:- 

**Nouns derived from verb bases**:

In Gondi, a noun is derived from the verb stem by the addition of noun forming suffix / - vaide/ and / - vaile/ 'agent'. / - vaide/ is added to the speech forms of Balaghat and Mandla dialects, / - vaile/ is added to the speech forms of Betul dialect. When this noun forming suffix is added to the verb stem, certain changes take place in the verb stem. Rules governing the change are given in detail in the fifth chapter of Morpho-phonemics.

Following examples show the derived nouns
from the verb base by the addition of /- waːdə:/ and
/- vaːle:/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Verb Form</th>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>kiya:</td>
<td>-vaːdə:</td>
<td>'doer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>sunja:</td>
<td>-vaːdə:</td>
<td>'one who sleeps'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>joka:</td>
<td>-vaːdə:</td>
<td>'killer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>ʈanḍa:</td>
<td>-vaːdə:</td>
<td>'Letouter'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Verb Form</th>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>kiya:</td>
<td>-vaːle:</td>
<td>'doer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>naːmːaː</td>
<td>-vaːle:</td>
<td>'one who sleeps'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>joka:</td>
<td>-vaːle:</td>
<td>'killer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>ʈanḍa:</td>
<td>-vaːle:</td>
<td>'Letouter'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the first group of above examples, it can be seen that the /- aː/ of the stem changes into /- eː/ whereas in the second group i.e. in Betul dialect, the verb stem which takes the suffix /- waːdə:/, a /n/ is added to the stem.

A few verb stems which contain a nasal consonant followed by its homorganic stop consonant change their stop into the respective nasal consonant phonetically when the suffix /-waːdə:/ is added. This double nasal has to be written as /n/. Following examples show this trend.
Nouns formed by the addition of /-vaisa:/ are in free variation phonetically with their corresponding unsuffixed forms with the double nasal in the Balaghat dialect of Gondi. The following examples show the same.

### Group-IV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tinesvaide:</td>
<td>~</td>
<td>tine:</td>
<td>'eater'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hane:vaide:</td>
<td>~</td>
<td>hane:</td>
<td>'goer'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>punesvaide:</td>
<td>~</td>
<td>punes:</td>
<td>'knower'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une:vaide:</td>
<td>~</td>
<td>une:</td>
<td>'eater'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tane:vaide:</td>
<td>~</td>
<td>tane:</td>
<td>'letouter'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mane:vaide:</td>
<td>~</td>
<td>mane:</td>
<td>'dweller'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.2 Gondi nouns derived from adjective bases:

A noun in Gondi is derived from the adjective base by suffixing /- pana: /- ' - ness ' noun forming suffix. These nouns do not undergo any change in their stem form after the addition of noun forming suffix. Following examples show this:

### Group-I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>saido:</td>
<td>'simple'</td>
<td>saido: pana:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cako:t</td>
<td>'good'</td>
<td>cako:t pana:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(c) kariyal 'black' → kariyalpana 'blackness'
(d) cuñar 'small' → cuñarpana 'smallness'
(e) para 'big' → paraipana 'bigness'
(f) raya 'young' → rayaipana 'youth'
(g) pivro 'yellow' → pivroipana 'yellowness'
(h) hivro 'green' → hivroipana 'greenness'
(i) mingul 'sweet' → mingulpana 'sweetness'
(j) vatail 'dry' → vatailpana 'dryness.'

The examples noted above represent the speech forms of Balaghat and Mandla dialects. In Betul dialect, adjectival nouns are formed by the addition of /-pan/ to the adjective base and not /-panas/. Both these forms, it may be pointed out, are used in Hindi as in /baicap/ and /bacipana/ childhood.

6.2.3: Gondi nouns derived from noun bases:

There are some other classes of derived nouns in Gondi which are formed from the noun bases by the addition of noun forming suffix /-pana/ which changes a common noun into an abstract noun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/-pana/</td>
<td>ch aya: 'child' → ch ayaipana: 'childhood'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kale: 'thief' → kaleipana: 'theft'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>maunvai: 'man' → maunvaiipana: 'manliness'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.4: Classification of noun stems according to the gender suffix:

In Gondi, noun stems can be classified according to the gender suffix. They take in the following way:
(1) Masculine nouns ending in a masculine suffix.

(2) Feminine/Neuter, i.e., Non-masculine nouns ending in a feminine/Neuter suffix or non-masculine suffix.

(3) Nouns belonging to both the genders i.e. Masculine and non-masculine.

6.2.5.1 Derivative suffixes for Masculine:

In Gondi, we have following derivational suffixes for masculine.

\{-asil\}

\#/asil##-1##-0###e##-\$/

\#/asil\/ occurs in the following nouns with consonant ending stems all of which denote a male person or animal or bird.

E.g.  
kum-asil  'potmaker'
ba:n-d-asil  'pig'
\dh\ imad-asil  'fisherman'
mudiy-asil  'father-in-law'
mainav-asil  'man'
tur-asil  'boy'
ra:n\dav-asil  'widower'
u\g\ ar-asil  'a naked man'
vart-asil  'a male guest'
gid\k\ -asil  'a male eagle'
munj-asil  'monkey (red)'
buk-asil  'monkey (black)'
mirg-asil  'antelope'
/'- l/ occurs in the following nouns with vowel ending stems most of which are borrowed from Hindi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stem</th>
<th>Hindi Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bokra:l</td>
<td>'goat'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tak:al</td>
<td>landless farmer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gadh a:1</td>
<td>an ass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dada:1</td>
<td>father</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pagla:1</td>
<td>mad man</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>borda:1</td>
<td>he buffalo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sipi:1</td>
<td>tailor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pandaja:1</td>
<td>priest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bh: asli:1</td>
<td>barbar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kh: asti:1</td>
<td>blacksmith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>savali:1</td>
<td>milkman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kaska:1</td>
<td>father's younger-brother</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>navda:1</td>
<td>bridegroom</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>candai:1</td>
<td>moon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

/'-o:/ occurs with the following nouns. Here again the stem ends in a consonant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stem</th>
<th>Hindi Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ta:da:o:</td>
<td>grandfather</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ak:o:</td>
<td>mother's father</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miyad-o:</td>
<td>husband</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
/-e:/ occurs with the following nouns:

2.8.

\( b^h \) ank-e:

male monkey.

san-e:

son-in-law.

/-a/ occurs with the nouns used in the vocative case:

2.8.

panda:

priest.

\( b^h \) ali:

barbar.

6.2.6: Feminine/Neuter, i.e. non-masculine nouns ending in feminine/neuter suffix or non-masculine suffix:

\{ - air \}

/-a?/-a? -a? -i? -a?/

/-air/ occurs with the following nouns:

2.8.

se:1-air

sister.

miy-air

daughter.

sarand-air

sister-in-law.

/-air/ occurs with the following nouns which are used only in the speech forms of Mandla dialect of Gondi:

2.8.

se:1-air

sister.

miy-air

daughter.

savand-air

sister-in-law.

/-i:/ occurs with the following nouns,
In Gondi, there are basic nouns which do not contain any formal suffixes. The gender of these nouns is lexically decided which is only non-masculine. Following examples show the basic nouns.

1. ro:m  house.
2. var:i  air.
3. vadu:r  bamboo.
4. niː oil.
5. neː1 field.
6. naːgar plough.
7. kan eye.
8. kaː1 leg.
9. pungaːr flower.
10. masoːr nose.
11. kaviː ear.
12. pal tooth.
13. vanjar tongue.
14. todiː mouth.

6.41- **Derivation by compounding:**

In Gondi, nouns are also derived by the method of compounding. This consists either of adjective and noun or verb and noun or noun and noun as shown below:

1. Adjective + Noun = Noun.
2. Verb + Noun = Noun.

**Examples of nouns from adjective + Noun:**

1. paːːs+ peːn = paːːs.peːn great god.
2. cuːdːr+ peːn = cuːdːr.peːn small god.
3. puːsːil+roːn = puːsːil.roːn new house.
4. junaːl+ baːdːiː = junaːl.baːdːiː old shirt.
5. sartaːl+ dikːaːl = sartaːl.dikːaːl torn cloth.
Examples of nouns from verb + noun:

2. mirta:l + ye:r = mirta:lyer = sprinkled water.
5. norta:l + arka:s = norta:lmarka:s = a washed pot.

In the above examples, it can be seen that the verb base is a past perfect participle of its respective verb form, they are illustrated as below:

2. /mirta:l/ past present participle of /mira:na/; 'to be sprung up.'
3. /pirta:l/ past perfect participle of /pira:na/; 'to grow out.'
5. /norta:l/ past perfect participle of /nor:na/; 'to wash.'

Examples of nouns from noun + noun:

2. tal= + to:ri= = talato:ri= A kind of clay used to wash the head.

3. marka= + mara = markamar = mango tree.

4. pe:in + kaɾa = pe:inkaɾa= A place, where a slaughter is made for a sacrifice.

6.5.1. Derivation of Adjective from Noun:

In Gondi, adjectives can be derived from noun and verb bases.

Adjectives can be derived from the noun base by the addition of two suffixes viz: /-1/ and /-ri:/

Examples are as follows:

1. kariya= black colour + 1 = kariyal= black.
2. kamka= yellow colour + 1 = kamka= yellow.
3. goɾɾa = stone + ri= = goɾɾapi= rocky.

6.5.2. Derivation of adjective from verb:

In Gondi, adjectives are also derived from the verb base. The derivation of adjective from the verb base is not frequent.

E.g. kaisa= (to) warm + tail = kaisa:tail hot.
na:nda (to) wet + tail = na:nda:tail wet.

There are some other classes of verbs which contain phonetically double consonants in their base forms which become single and the final /a/ of the stem is dropped.
before the adjective forming suffix /-tail/.

Following examples show the same:

(1) nora:  (to)wash + tail = nortail clean.
(2) mira:  (to)sprinkle + tail = mirtail sprinkling.
(3) vata:  (to)dry + tail = vatail dried.
(4) kava:  (to)laugh + tail = kavtail laughing.

Another class of verbs which contain /-nd/ in their base changes its cluster into the respective voiceless consonants,

E.g. handa:  (to)go + tail = hatail gone(F)
manda:  (to)live + tail = matail remained(F)
tinda:  (to)eat + tail = tiatail eaten(F)

The verb forms which contain /-y/ in their base form lose /-y/ before the adjective forming suffix /-tail/.

E.g. say:  (to)die + tail = sa:tail dead.

6.6: Derivation of Adverb:

In Gondi, the derivation of adverb is very rare. The following one instance will show that an adverb can be derived from the noun base by the addition of adverb forming suffix /-ay/.

E.g. din  'day' + ay = dinay daily.

6.7: Repetitive formation in Gondi:

In Gondi, repetitive formation is formed from

(1) Adjective (2) Verb (3) Noun.
6.7.1: *Repetitive formation from adjectives:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.g.</th>
<th>hivro: hivro:</th>
<th>very green.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>tajo: tajo:</td>
<td>quite fresh.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.7.2: *Repetitive formation from verbs:*

In Gondi, repetitves are formed from verbs. These repetitves generally denote the continuation of an action taking place. They also denote some future action to be done.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.g.</th>
<th>arma: arma:</th>
<th>while weeping.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>tina: tina:</td>
<td>while eating.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.7.3: *Repetitive formation from Nouns:*

Repetitive formations are also made from the adverb bases. Following examples will show the same.

1. mur mur       A bad smell.
2. kaḏ kaḏ       A noise due to breaking of wood.
3. kʰ at kʰ at   A noise due to the knocking of door.
4. nur nur       A noise due to the filling of water.
5. gaṭ gaṭ       A noise due to the drinking of water.